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GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH5031 – Export prices declined 2 to 3 percent due to rumors of large sales of government stocks and the weakening Thai baht over the past week. Separately, the Government announced that shipment of outstanding government-to-government contract with China will probably resume no early than May 2015.

Post:
Bangkok

Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending March 16, 2015

Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV
FWR 100 B	890	-	-	900	900	890	-	895	925
WR 100 B	405	-	410	410	410	405	410	408	420
PB 100%	400	-	405	405	405	395	405	403	411
PB 5%	395	-	400	400	400	390	400	398	406
WR 5%	395	-	395	380	390	395	390	391	398
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	390	-	390	403
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	385	-	385	398
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	370	-	370	380
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	325	-	-	325	330	325	-	326	329
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Exchange rate: 32.8 baht/U.S.\$

Source: Average actual prices received from exporters

Export prices declined 2 to 3 percent from the previous week due to rumors of large sales of government stocks and the weakening of the Thai baht to around 32.8 baht/\$ compared to 32.5 baht/\$ in the previous week. Reports are that the government will announce in the coming days sales of around 0.7 million metric tons from its public tender of 1 million metric tons which was conducted on March 6, 2015. Most of the sales will be 5% grade white rice from MY2012/13 and MY2013/14.

Supplies of MY2014/15 off-season new-crop rice are coming into the market and also putting downward pressure on prices. Since January 1, 2015, export prices of new-crop 100% B grade white rice are down approximately 4 percent from \$423/MT to \$408/MT.

The shipment of outstanding 0.7 million metric tons under the old government-to-government contract of 1 million metric tons with China will resume no early than May 2015. Reports indicate that there is progress setting the terms for another 300,000 metric tons from the balance of 0.7 million metric tons.

The government announced that it will sign the new government-to-government contract of 2 million metric of rice with China on May 6, 2015. The contract will consist of one million metric tons of new-crop rice and another million metric tons of old crop for container delivery in 2015 and 2016.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial preliminary rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for March 9-15, 2015 totaled 90,541 metric tons, up 6,723 metric tons from the previous week and up 14,675 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 75,866 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports from January 1 – March 15, 2015, totaled 731,882 metric tons, up 8.4 percent from the same period last year.

Table 2: Weekly rice exports (excluding fragrant rice)					
WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Jan 11	23,914	63,088	24	72	-66.7
Jan 18	100,107	55,038	124	133	-6.9
Jan 25	77,995	52,305	202	186	8.9
Feb 1	73,495	68,878	276	249	10.7
Feb 8	64,545	79,035	340	314	8.3
Feb 15	88,362	76,099	428	381	12.4
Feb 22	71,026	74,357	499	459	8.9
Mar 1	58,079	70,503	558	544	2.5
Mar 8	83,818	75,321	641	609	5.3
Mar 15	90,541	75,866	732	675	8.4

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports. The reporting authority was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

End of report